


Subject: Newsletter from LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD5)
From: "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>
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To: "Lisa Schechter" <lisa@mediadistrict.org>



October 7, 2017

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Councilmember Koretz Takes Action on Equifax Data Breach


In the wake of the Equifax data breach,  Councilmember Paul Koretz has introduced a resolution this week in support of the federal Freedom from Equifax Exploitation (FREE) Act that was recently introduced by US Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass) and Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii). The federal effort is designed to give control back to consumers over their personal credit and financial information.

See the federal legislation [HERE](#).

See the Councilmember's resolution [HERE](#).

Additionally, the Councilmember introduced a motion to determine whether the City has suffered damage as a result of the breach. The motion also requests that the City Attorney take any legal action he deems appropriate as a result of the Equifax breach.

City Controller Report On Homelessness

Outdoor homeless encampments continue  to be one of the biggest challenges we face in Council District 5 and indeed the whole city.


Councilmember Koretz works with community members regularly to try to address the various issues they pose, from trash to public safety to general nuisances.

The recent appearance of instances of hepatitis-A has amplified their potential impact on public health as well. However, court decisions over the last couple of years make it imperative that the City works to provide services and housing opportunities for the homeless because, without them, legal limitations have been placed on our ability to deal with encampments. Importantly, City Controller Ron Galperin has just released a report on homeless encampments, their impact and possible options for dealing with them more systematically and constructively than we have in the recent past.

The Council office and the Council's Homeless and Poverty Committee will be reviewing his recommendations carefully. You can read the 46-page report [HERE](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Turns 15

This week, Councilmembers David Ryu  (CD4) and Paul Koretz (CD5) honored the founding members of the Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council (BABCNC) for its 15th anniversary. The BABCNC represents the Los Angeles hillside communities stretching from Laurel Canyon to Sepulveda Blvd., and from Sunset Blvd. to Mulholland Drive.

Thanks to all of you who participate in your neighborhood councils for your tireless efforts

assisting the City by advocating directly for your communities and making real change in areas you care most about. To learn more about Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils and how to get involved, visit www.EmpowerLA.org

NEWS YOU CAN USE

The Moraga Drive On & Off Ramps Closed at the 405; Lane Reductions on North Sepulveda Blvd at Moraga Drive

On Saturday (10/7) and Sunday (10/8) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., SoCalGas will be performing a pipeline improvement project on North Sepulveda Boulevard at the Moraga Drive on and off-ramps at Interstate 405 in Los Angeles. Crews are expected to work on the natural gas pipeline during several weekends through the end of 2017.

To perform this pipeline improvement project safely, the Moraga Drive on and off-ramps will be closed to traffic. Northbound and southbound traffic on North Sepulveda Boulevard will be reduced to one lane in each direction. Westbound traffic on Moraga Drive will not be able to make a left turn onto southbound Sepulveda Boulevard. However, traffic will be able to make a right turn onto northbound Sepulveda Boulevard. Traffic control officers and signs will help direct the flow of traffic.

No interruption to natural gas service is anticipated.

Customers with questions or concerns about the construction work may call the SoCalGas' Customer Contact Center 24-hours a day, seven-days a week at 800-427-2200.

THE CITY OF LA WANTS YOUR PARTICIPATION

OurLA2040 General Plan Update Community Conversations



For the first time in nearly fifty years, the City of Los Angeles is undertaking a comprehensive update to its guiding vision, the General Plan. This initiative, OurLA2040, will result in a new 20-year citywide plan to be

adopted in 2020, which will put into place strong and visionary policies to help create a more prosperous, livable, and sustainable Los Angeles.

To launch the OurLA2040 public engagement program, a series of Community Conversations will be taking place throughout the City in a neighborhood near you! This is an opportunity to share your perspective on the topics included in the General Plan update. The first phase of this series will take place in the month of October, focusing on the topics of Open Space and Community. Join your neighbors and friends to help spark new ideas and shape a better future for Los Angeles!

Save the Date!

Saturday, October 7, 10 a.m. – Noon
Van Nuys Civic Center, Community Rooms 1A and 1B,
[14410 Sylvan Street, Van Nuys, CA 91401](#)

Saturday, October 21, 10 a.m. – Noon
West Angeles Senior Villas, Community Room,
[6030 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90043](#)

Wednesday, October 25, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Emerson College, Assembly Room,
[5960 Sunset Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90028](#)


Are You Prepared for A Disaster?



The 10th Annual Valley Disaster Fair will be held on October 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm at

the Northridge Fashion Center (9400 Shirley Ave.). This fun, free and informative event might save your life, your pet's life, or the life of a loved one. The event is completely free – Free Admission, Free Parking and Free Food. Everything is free at the Fair to encourage everyone to be disaster ready. Register online at www.ValleyDisasterFair.com for a free family emergency preparation kit and for a schedule of the day's events.

Upcoming Westside Village 4th Annual Preparedness Fair Emergency Communications: Our Phones are Out, Now What?

Recent hurricanes and major earthquakes 
highlight the importance of emergency
communications. When such a disaster
hits Los Angeles, parts of our
communications systems—cell phones,
land lines, and Internet— will likely fail.

Learn how to prepare so you can
communicate with members of your
immediate and extended family, neighbors, and first responders. There will be experts,
demonstrations, and hands-on opportunities to try various methods of communications. Vendors
and door prizes will be available to add to your emergency preparedness supplies.


Save the date:


Thursday, October 12, 2017, 6:30-9pm
St. John's Presbyterian Church,
11000 National Blvd at Military Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Free Parking! Light Refreshments!

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY


UCLA Launches Bruin Bike Share

UCLA held a celebration this week to 
launch the Bruin bike rental program. 130
bikes and 18 hubs are located throughout
the main campus and adjacent Westwood
Village commercial area – extending three

blocks south of Wilshire Boulevard. Bruin 
Bike Share is compatible with the
CycleHop smart-bike system in Santa
Monica, Beverly Hills and West
Hollywood. The City of Los Angeles
operates the Metro Bike Share network in
downtown L.A., Pasadena, Port of L.A.
and Venice. Metro Bike Share is currently
not compatible with the UCLA, Santa
Monica, Beverly Hills and West Hollywood
bike share programs.


The smart bikes can be checked out using
the Social Bicycles mobile app.

The New Westfield Century City Is Unveiled

A celebration revealing the completion of 
Westfield Century City's \$1 billion
renovation took place earlier this week
with community leaders, VIPs, Westfield
retail partners and prominent industry
insiders.

Festivities were preceded by a press
conference in which Councilmember
Koretz introduced Mayor Eric Garcetti and Westfield Co-CEOs Steven and Peter Lowy, as well as
J.R. Martinez and Laurie Baker, Executive Director of the Infinite Hero Foundation.
A majority of the destination's 200+ shops and restaurants have now opened for business
including a variety of outdoor plazas, landscaped terraces and event and entertainment spaces,
with additional retail and restaurant arrivals to open soon.

First Iranian Design Mural in Los Angeles

After receiving more than 100 
submissions, the Farhang Foundation in
collaboration with the Beautify Earth
organization has installed HUMANITY,
the first winning design of the Iranian
Mural Design Competition. Created by

renowned artist [Farzad Kohan](#),



HUMANITY was installed earlier this

summer at the intersection of Overland Ave. and Charnock Road., in the Palms neighborhood of Los Angeles. Additional winning designs will be announced as they are installed throughout the city.

Special thanks go to the Palms Neighborhood Council, who unanimously voted to support the mural. Additional thanks go to the [Overland Café](#) for graciously hosting the mural, and to artist Calen Blake who collaborated with Farzad to help install the mural.

Farhang Foundation's goal is to continue the roll out of additional murals throughout Southern California, and is actively searching for potential walls with good public visibility throughout the city. Any property owners interested in participating in this project should contact info@farhang.org.

Former Team Koretz Case Worker Doron Lowe Launches Flight Squad

From time to time, we are asked for the latest news on our former staff.



Interestingly, Doron Lowe worked in CD5 as a case worker and he is now co-owner of a new exhibition basketball team, FLIGHT SQUAD.

The re-branded team boasts a co-ed roster of former international pro players and Division1 athletes. Flight Squad travels the globe for fundraising, charitable, tournament and league events. After many of their games, they encourage the youth through motivational speeches. Brittany Dorsey, who played professionally for Kiev, Ukraine, has been hired as head coach. Driven by values of teamwork, dedication and humility, their focus is blending competitive basketball with unexpected, cutting

ONEgeneration Unveils Newest Pre-School Classroom

This week, CD5 Valley Director Gurmet Khara joined ONEgeneration at the dedication of its new preschool classrooms for 4-5 year olds at



their J.O.Y. (Joining Old and Young)



Campus. It was a great turn out with

community members including

Councilmember Bob Blumenfield and

members of the Encino Neighborhood Council as well as the Encino Chamber of Commerce.

Michaelson Found Animals Symposium at City Hall

Councilmember Koretz and Jeff Ebenstein,

CD5 Director of Policy and Legislation,

attended the Michelson Found Animals

Symposium last week at City Hall.

Councilmember Koretz discussed the

status of animal welfare in the City among

issues currently in front of the Personnel

and Animal Welfare committee which he

Chairs. The City of Los Angeles was

praised as one of the most humane cities

in the nation particularly for prioritizing

animal welfare.

Adopt Some Love

Looking for a new furry companion? Check out these LA Animal Shelter Dogs and Cats of the Week from the West LA & East Valley City Animal Shelters. Please come meet our dogs and cats – they need homes now. The shelters are open Tuesday through Saturday 8 am to 5 pm; Sunday 11 am to 5 pm (closed Mondays). Click on any photo below for details.



[Cheddar](#)

[Yolanda](#)

[Snickers](#)

[Jack](#)

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